



# Combined Nuclear Pension Plan

## Welcome from the Chairman

Welcome to our 2023 newsletter for the Defined Contribution (DC) Structure of the Combined Nuclear Pension Plan (CNPP). If you're a member of the Defined Benefit (DB) Structure of the Plan, you'll receive a separate DB newsletter.

Both are available at [cnpp.org.uk](https://cnpp.org.uk)

## We're always focused on running the CNPP well and efficiently

The Trustee's main priority continues to be ensuring the efficient running of the CNPP. The Trustee maintains high levels of governance and complies with the supervisory requirements set by the Pensions Regulator to achieve this. The Trustee diligently monitors its business plan objectives and ensures that your Plan is managed, administered, and governed to the highest standards.

## Environmental, Social and Governance in investment choices

The Trustee takes its responsibility to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) very seriously. We continue to increase our focus on ESG within our investment portfolio. Under new regulations, the Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) has established a set of 11 clear, comparable and consistent recommended disclosures about the risks and opportunities presented by climate change. The TCFD disclosures report for the year ending 31 March 2022 can be found in the document library on the CNPP website.

## Ensuring good governance in a changing world

The past three years have accelerated the use of online services for many of the things we used to take for granted, and pensions has been no exception. If you have not done so already, I urge you to register for access to TargetPlan.

TargetPlan enables you to securely manage your pension account on your mobile, tablet or laptop any time you like. Further details regarding TargetPlan and how to activate your account can be found on page 6.

You may also have recently been invited to join a presentation regarding pensions hosted by Aegon. If you were unable to attend this session, I recommend that you listen to the recording, details of which can be found on page 3.

If you want to know more about your DC benefits, please contact your Plan Administrator. You'll find their details on page 8.

You can also find a copy of the Trustee's Annual Report at [cnpp.org.uk](https://cnpp.org.uk), together with the annual Chairman's Statement covering the Trustee's stewardship of all the Plan's DC arrangements during the year.

I hope that you will find this newsletter interesting and if you want to know more about your benefits under the CNPP please contact the Plan Administrator, Aegon.



**Allan Whalley**  
Chairman of the CNPP Trustees

# Meet your Trustee Board

## What your Trustee Board does

Your Trustee Board makes sure the CNPP is run properly and that member benefits are secure.

There are 3 types of Trustee on the Board:

- Independent Trustees, who don't have any direct personal interest in the CNPP, either through the employers or as members
- Member Nominated Trustees, who are elected by the members of the CNPP
- Employer Nominated Trustees, who are nominated by the NDA from its senior managers or Board members.

The current Trustee Board as at 31 July 2023 is shown to the right.

### Independent Trustees

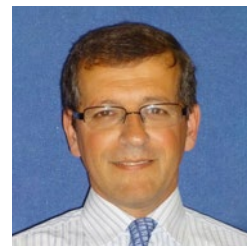
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**Allan Whalley**  
Chairman



**Mark Condron**  
from Capital Cranfield  
Trustees Limited



**Raymonde Nathan**  
from PAN Trustees  
UK LLP

### Member Nominated Trustees

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**James Crabtree**  
Employed by Nuclear  
Transport Solutions



**Pip Hatt**  
Employed by  
Magnox Limited



**Claire Toole**  
Employed by  
Sellafield Limited

### Employer Nominated Trustees

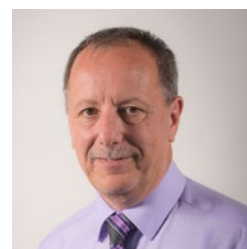
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**Mike Calloway**  
Head of Programme:  
Non-NDA Liabilities  
Assurance at NDA



**Jeremy Gilmour**  
Head of Community  
and Economic  
Development at NDA



**Andrew Oldham**  
Director Group  
Finance at NDA

# Helping you plan your retirement

Each year you receive an annual benefit statement. This gives you an estimate of how much you might have when you retire, assuming that you continue contributing the same amount to the Plan.

The actual value of your investment account will depend upon a number of things including:

- how much you contribute
- when you retire
- how much your investments grow, including which funds you choose to invest in and the investment charges applied

The value of your investment account may go down or up, depending upon the performance of your funds.

You can use your annual benefit statement to compare the value of your investment account with your savings goals for when you retire. Based on what you find, you can decide whether your current investment choices are right for you. When deciding, it's important that you consider:

- how much investment return you're looking for
- the amount of risk you're prepared to take
- how long you have until you retire

## **The investment options you choose can make a difference to your retirement savings**

Over the long-term, equities are expected to deliver a higher level of return over bonds and cash. But there have been times when returns on equities have been lower than both bonds and cash. While cash offers more security, it has historically provided only modest rates of return. Inflation is high at the moment, so holding your money in cash could mean it loses value. It's important to think carefully about whether you have the right mix of investments for your needs.

It's a good idea to speak to an independent financial adviser about whether you're on track for the retirement you'd like and the choices that are open to you. Go to [moneyhelper.org.uk/retirement-directory](https://moneyhelper.org.uk/retirement-directory) to find one.

## Tell us who you'd like to benefit from your pension

We all want to provide for our loved ones, so it's good to know that your benefits could pay them a lump sum of money when you die.

You need to tell us who you want this money to go to. You can nominate who you'd like to benefit from your pension by filling in an Expression of Wish form and sending it to your Plan Administrator. Go to [cnpp.org.uk](https://cnpp.org.uk) to download the form. Alternatively, you can ask your Plan Administrator or Employer Representative for one.

People move house and things in our lives change. So, even if you've already filled in an Expression of Wish, it's important to keep it up to date. Please check yours regularly and let your Plan Administrator know if something needs updating.

## How to make the most of your pension



If you missed our webinar with Aegon, you can watch a recording instead. It explains how your pension works, what your options are,

and how to check if you're on track.

Feedback from the webinar was extremely positive. You can watch it by using the QR code or going to: [vimeo.com/761402492/de38e10c1a](https://vimeo.com/761402492/de38e10c1a)

If you have any questions about your pension, please contact Aegon, the Plan administrator. You'll find their details on page 8.

# Understand the charges you pay on your fund

Every year you pay a small charge for your pension money to be invested, known as the Annual Management Charge (AMC). The charge is a percentage of your fund value, and it's different depending on which fund you choose.

While you are free to make your own investment choices, the Trustee Board is obliged to select a Default fund, and the LifePath Flexi fund has been chosen for that purpose.

The table below shows the AMC of each fund.

Fund name	AMC (% p.a.)
Aegon BlackRock LifePath Flexi (BLK)	0.23
Aegon BlackRock LifePath Capital (BLK)	0.23
Aegon BlackRock LifePath Retirement (BLK)	0.23
CNPP Multi Asset	0.52
CNPP ESG Multi-Asset Fund	0.37
CNPP Global Equity	0.15
CNPP Global Equity ex UK	0.15
CNPP Emerging Markets	0.28
CNPP Sharia	0.45
CNPP UK Equity	0.15
CNPP Index Linked Gilt	0.15
CNPP Corporate Bond	0.15
CNPP Pre Retirement	0.30
CNPP Cash	0.15

## Fund performance

The table below shows the performance of each fund after charges have been deducted. The value of investments can go down as well as up. And past performance is not a guide to future investment returns.

Fund performance as at 31 March 2023	1 year (%p.a.)	5 years (%p.a.)
LifePath - Growth (c.40 ytr, 2060 Target)	-4.7%	7.4%
LifePath - De-risk Stage (c. 20 ytr, 2040 target)	-7.3%	5.7%
Lifepath - At Retirement - Flexi	-10.5%	2.5%
LifePath - At-Retirement - Capital	-3.0%	2.2%

You can view quarterly fund factsheets that show the performance of individual funds. You'll find them at [cnpp.org.uk](https://cnpp.org.uk) by clicking on 'Defined Contribution' and then 'Fund factsheets'.



# How your pension can change the world

Responsible investment continues to be high on the Trustees' agenda. This year, we launched the ESG Multi Asset Fund. If you choose this fund, you'll invest only in companies that score well on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) credentials.



improve company governance in areas like board diversity and anti-corruption.

You're already making a difference. Most members are invested in the Aegon BlackRock LifePath strategies, where more than 80% of their investments are in funds that exclude companies with poor ESG credentials.

For more information on this fund, you can use the QR code or go to: [aegon.co.uk/content/dam/ukpaw/hidden/Standard\\_BPNL7L4.pdf](https://aegon.co.uk/content/dam/ukpaw/hidden/Standard_BPNL7L4.pdf)

By investing responsibly, your pension can help tackle climate change, support labour standards and human rights, and



## Making sure you're in the right investments at the right time

As part of your pension fund investment choice, Aegon offer a collection of funds that automatically reallocate investments as you approach retirement to reduce market risk. These funds are known as the LifePath funds.

LifePath funds aim to provide you with an opportunity to grow your retirement savings with the CNPP. As you approach retirement age, they automatically begin to shift your savings towards lower risk investments. At the same time, they align your CNPP pension account with how you'd like to take your retirement benefits.

To make the most of this personalised approach, it's important to register with TargetPlan and keep your target retirement date up to date. You can access TargetPlan at [aegon.co.uk/targetplan](https://aegon.co.uk/targetplan)

You can find further information on LifePath funds, including the different options and how they work, on the CNPP website at [cnpp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Combined-Nuclear-Pension-Plan-CNPP-LifePath-Funds.pdf](https://cnpp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Combined-Nuclear-Pension-Plan-CNPP-LifePath-Funds.pdf)

## Paperless communications

As part of its commitment to sustainability and the environment, over the next 18 months the Trustee intends to move to digital communications with Plan members. However, if you prefer, you will be given the opportunity to opt out of this approach and to continue to receive paper-based communications. Otherwise Plan members will receive information such as newsletters and Annual Benefit Statements digitally. The Trustee will provide more information to Plan members in due course.

# Keep track of your pension with TargetPlan

TargetPlan lets you manage your pension account from your phone, tablet or computer any time you like – all in a secure way. It's like online banking for your pension.

TargetPlan gives you a complete picture of your retirement savings. It lets you:

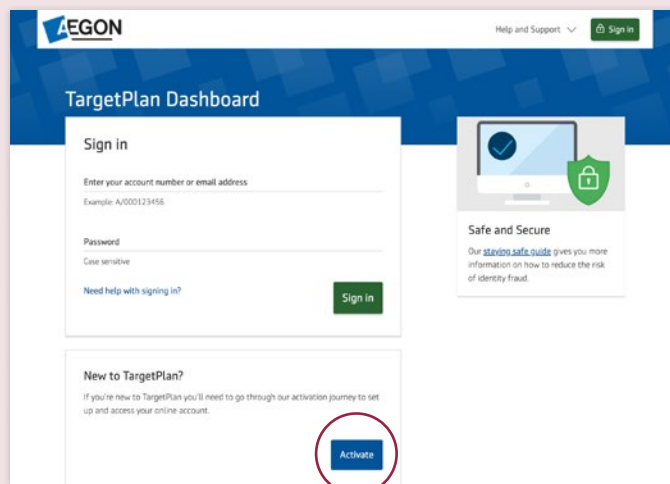
- review your contributions
- change your target retirement age
- change your investment options
- use myTarget – a pension calculator that helps you work out how much income you might need when you stop working, and get on track if you're not on target.

You'll also be able to see your personalised video summary. It shows what's going into your account and your fund value, where your money is invested, and when you've said you want to retire. It even gives you an idea of how much you might have when you stop working.

## Activate your TargetPlan account

You can use TargetPlan on your computer or via an app on your phone. However you want to access it, you need to register for TargetPlan on your computer if you haven't used it before.

It only takes a few minutes to get started. All you need is your National Insurance number and your account number – you can find this on your annual statement. If you don't have a statement or need help activating your account, you can call Aegon on 01733 353 414 or email at [my.pension@aegon.co.uk](mailto:my.pension@aegon.co.uk)



1. Go to [aegon.co.uk/targetplan](https://aegon.co.uk/targetplan) on your computer
2. Click the 'activate' button to register to manage your pension online – you'll find this on the sign-in dashboard
3. After 48 hours, download the Aegon app to manage your pension from your phone. It's available from both the Android and Apple app stores.

If you have queries around AVCs or the Shift Pay Pension Plan, please contact your Plan Administrator.

## Get free help with your pension

Pension Wise (available through the MoneyHelper website) is a government service that offers free and impartial guidance about your defined contribution pension options.

An appointment with Pension Wise is free and will help you understand what your overall financial situation will be when you retire. Their specialists will talk you through your options, and the things to think about, to make a decision that's right for you. Go to [moneyhelper.org.uk/pension-wise](https://moneyhelper.org.uk/pension-wise) to find out more or to book an appointment.

The pension specialists at Pension Wise won't be able to give you advice based on your individual circumstances. For that, you'll need to talk to an independent financial adviser. You can use MoneyHelper's retirement directory to find one. You'll find it at [moneyhelper.org.uk/retirement-directory](https://moneyhelper.org.uk/retirement-directory)

# Don't let scammers get your pension

Pension scams are on the rise, and anyone can be a victim of one.

## How to spot a pension scam

Scammers often contact people out of the blue by phone, email or text. They might even knock on your door. This is illegal, and is a likely sign of a scam. They also advertise online and can have websites that look official or government-backed.

Other common signs of pension scams:

- using phrases like 'free pension review', 'pension liberation' and 'guaranteed returns'
- promising that they can get better returns on your pension savings
- offering to help to release cash from a pension before the age of 55, with no mention of the HMRC tax bill that may result
- high-pressure sales tactics. These include time-limited offers to get the best deal and using couriers to send documents, who wait until they're signed
- unusual high-risk investments, which tend to be overseas, unregulated, with no consumer protections. These might include overseas property, renewable energy bonds and forestry
- complicated investment structures
- long-term investments. These often mean people who transfer don't realise something's wrong for several years.

If you receive a message about your pension that you think may be suspicious, you can report it to the National Cyber Security Centre at [ncsc.gov.uk/information/report-suspicious-emails](https://ncsc.gov.uk/information/report-suspicious-emails)

Reporting messages may help stop someone else losing their pension.



## Pension Scammers: Don't get suckered in

If you want to know what you can do to keep safe, this short animation shares top tips to avoid getting suckered in by pension scammers. Watch it, and



share it with anyone you know who might be thinking about moving their pension money. You can access it using the QR code, or go to YouTube and search for 'Pension Scammers: Don't Get Suckered In'.

## What to do if you're thinking of transferring money from your pension

Speak to an independent financial adviser who's authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority before making a transfer. Visit [unbiased.co.uk](https://unbiased.co.uk) to find one. If you still want to go ahead, our Plan Administrators will carry out checks on behalf of the Trustee. However, scammers are getting increasingly sophisticated, so this doesn't mean they'll be able to spot every scam.

For more advice, visit [thepensionsregulator.gov.uk](https://thepensionsregulator.gov.uk) to read their booklet, 'How to spot a scam'.



## Go to [cnpp.org.uk](https://cnpp.org.uk) to find out more about your Plan

Go to [cnpp.org.uk](https://cnpp.org.uk) to find answers to frequently asked questions around the DC Structure. This is also the place to find the Trustee's Annual Report, which includes the DC investment report, annual Chairman's Statement covering the Trustee's stewardship of the Plan's DC arrangements and details of costs and charges.

# Changes to the Annual Allowance and Lifetime Allowance

By law, there's a limit to how much you can pay into your pensions without triggering a tax charge. In April 2023, the government changed these limits. You can now pay more money into your pension before you have to pay tax.

## The annual allowance

The total amount that can go into all of your pensions each year without paying extra tax is called the annual allowance. This has increased from £40,000 to £60,000 a year if you haven't started to draw a defined contribution (DC) pension. If you have started drawing a DC pension, the limit might be lower.

If you build up pension savings in a DC pension, your annual allowance is based on how much money you and your employer put into your pension.

If you build up benefits in a defined benefit (DB) pension, your annual allowance is based on how much the value of your pension increases over the year.

If you're liable for a tax charge, you may ask the Plan to pay the part of the charge that's to do with your CNPP benefits by taking it from your benefits. If you have any doubts about your tax position, please talk to an independent financial adviser.

## The lifetime allowance

The limit on how much can go into your pension over your lifetime without triggering a tax charge is known as the lifetime allowance (LTA). From April 2024, the LTA will be officially abolished, so you won't have to pay a charge, no matter how much you pay into your pension. The government has also said no one will have to pay extra tax for the tax year 2023-2024 if they go over the current allowance.

## Merger of DRSL and Magnox Sections

You may be aware that the Dounreay Site Restoration Limited (DSRL) Section was merged into the Magnox Section on 1 April 2023. As a consequence, all DSRL members of the CNPP are now in the Magnox Section. The Trustee would like to reassure affected members that the merger of the Sections will not change their benefits within the CNPP.

## CARE reform

You may have heard about the proposal to reform future Final Salary pension accrual to Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) accrual. This reform only affects the DB Benefit Structure of the Plan. Your DC investment account will not be affected.

## Protecting your data

As the Trustee of the Plan, we hold certain information about you, which is required to administer the Plan and pay your benefits. The Trustee, as data controller for the Plan, is required to provide you with information about the personal data we hold about you, how we use it, and the safeguards that are in place to protect it.

The Trustee issued its privacy notice in 2019, and updated it in April 2023, to provide you with further details on how it complies with General Data Protection Regulations. Go to [cnpp.org.uk](https://cnpp.org.uk) to see a copy of this document.



## How to get in touch and give feedback

If you have any questions about your pension, your benefits, or need to make any changes to the information we hold for you, get in touch with your Plan Administrator, Aegon, using the details below. You can also give them feedback on this newsletter or any other aspect of the Plan.

**Phone:** 01733 353 414

**Email:** [my.pension@aegon.co.uk](mailto:my.pension@aegon.co.uk)

**Post:** Aegon Workplace Investing  
Sunderland  
SR43 4DH